



MONTEREY NEWS

OCTOBER 1992



TOWN NEWS

John Owen reported to the Board of Selectmen on the progress of the Liberty Elm Project. The town became involved in the project about a year ago at Mr. Owen's urging. At that time, 100 seedlings were planted at Gould Farm, 63 of which survived, a high rate. Ten of the surviving seedlings will be given to Gould Farm; the rest will be given to the town.

Tree Warden, Roger Tryon preferred to delay planting the seedlings for five years until the elms are larger. Mr. Owen disagreed, citing another expert's opinion that recommended planting the seedlings this year. In addition, delaying the planting several years

would greatly increase costs. The Board agreed that the trees should be planted this season and instructed Mr. Owen to begin planting as soon as possible.

The Selectmen met with the members of the newly formed Town Hall Committee (Martin Cherneff, Wayne Burkhart and Nick Wool) to outline goals and begin work. Selectman Bill Bohn stressed the importance of writing the grant applications to obtain funding for the project. Mr. Bohn also assigned specific tasks for the committee members. Wayne Burkhart, for instance, representing the Planning Board, has been designated to work with the architect in preparing plans for the new building.



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The committee members protested what they saw as the Selectmen's attempt to manipulate the direction of their work. They believe that they have a mandate from the 1992 town meeting to work independently on all aspects of the project, including needs assessment, a feasibility study and a financial assessment. Mr. Wool stressed the need for the Town Hall Committee to establish an organization, appoint a chair and a clerk and set regular meeting dates.

Peter Murkett, Clerk of the Board of Appeals, met with the Selectmen to discuss Town Counsel's recent interpretation of the Massachusetts General Laws and the town's zoning bylaws in regard to issuing building permits for non-conforming structures. Mr. Murkett said that proposed changes to any non-conforming building must come before the Board of Appeals for a determination on whether the proposed change will "intensify or increase" the non-conformity.

The Selectmen heard a complaint from James and Cindy Deloy about the placement of buoys in the Lake Garfield channel by the Lake Garfield Association. (For a complete discussion of this question, see both *Lake Garfield Association* and *Letters to the Editor* elsewhere in this month's issue.)

On August 31, the Selectmen conducted a hearing to obtain public input before establishing the percentage of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of property. Assistant Assessor Harry Gustafson was present to explain the current classification and to recommend that the factor of one (1) be retained for all five classifications, so that residential, commercial, industrial, open-space and personal property classes all pay the same rate, based on full valuation. The Selectmen unanimously accepted the recommendation. Mr. Gustafson indicated that the new tax rate will be \$6.50 per thousand.

The Selectmen received an application from Paul H. Bynack of Main Road to serve on the Police Department. The Board reviewed the application and interviewed the candidate. Police Chief Hamm explained the training process and certification required and explained that Mr. Bynack would be patrolling with another officer. It was unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Bynack as a Provisional Police Officer under the supervision of Chief Hamm.

Also appointed by the Board as a Provisional Police Officer was Edward Briggs of Great Barrington. Mr. Briggs formerly served in the Lee Police

Monterey
by Leonard Weber



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Department, and is currently a member of the Great Barrington Fire Department. He will work under the supervision of Chief Hamm from September 15-November 15, at which time the Board will re-evaluate him for permanent appointment to the Police Department.

In other Police Department news, one bid was received for the purchase of a new cruiser, from Natick Ford of Natick, Massachusetts, for \$20,169. This bid exceeded the \$19,500 appropriated at the 1992 town meeting. After speaking with Natick Ford, Chief Hamm told the Board that a deal had been reached on a 1993 Ford Explorer. The cost will be \$19,292. The "add-on" labor charge for installing the prisoner screen was removed from the original bid price, bringing it within the appropriation amount.

Chairman Bill Bohn reported on the status of the zoning bylaw violations at the Simon property on Sylvan Road, Lake Garfield. On August 7, the Board denied the Simons' application for a building permit and advised their attorney that the reconstruction of a previously non-conforming structure requires a hearing under the Massachusetts General Laws 40A, Section 6, to determine the non-conforming nature of the previous structure (setback) and whether the reconstruction does or does not increase the non-conforming nature of the structure. The Board also refused the lift the cease and desist order and would not permit the completion of the dwelling pending resolution. The Selectmen announced that they would conduct a public hearing on the violations at the Simon property. (See *Notice* following this article.)

The following building permit applications were approved: Lawrence and Elizabeth Silk, for the construction of a four-foot by forty-foot bridge over a pond at their Gould Road property, submitted by the builder, Steven MacLeay (The Conservation Commission granted permission for the project on August 10, 1992.); Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Weiss, for repairs and renovations at their Art School Road house, submitted by the builder, Tom Gillis; John O'Connor, for the construction of a pitched roof to replace an existing flat roof at his house on Lake Garfield; James Wheelock, for the installation of skylights over a garage and window installation at his house on Beartown Mountain Road, submitted by the builder, Mark Amstead.

— Maggie Leonard

NOTICE

The Board of Selectmen will conduct a public hearing on the violations at the Burton Simon property on Sylvan Road, Lake Garfield (record title owners: Steven Keith Simon and Lauren Ann Piskin) on Saturday, October 3, 1992, at 10:00 a.m. at the Monterey firehouse, Main Road, Monterey. Such hearing is conducted in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Section 6.

William Bohn, Chair
Georgiana C. O'Connell
Peter S. Brown

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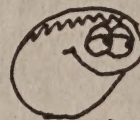
We were able to enjoy our end-of-summer activities, which included a trip to Forest Park Zoo. We look forward to seeing everyone as playgroups resume. We are planning two fall activities for October. On October 2, we will go pumpkin picking at Tall Pine Farm, Monterey. Bring a snack and meet at CHP at 9:30 a.m., rain or shine. On October 9, we will go apple picking at Windy Hill Farm, Route 7, Stockbridge. Bring a picnic lunch, wear boots or rubbers and meet at the farm at 11:00 a.m. Fees are \$5.00 a peck, or \$2.50 for 1/2 peck.

We are extremely grateful to the Kare Bear Golf Tournament Committee for the donation of \$5000 towards our family service programs, which include the playgroups and the Parent-to-Parent program.

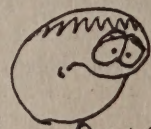
Please join us at our annual Halloween party, to be held October 29, 10:00-11:00 a.m. as part of the Great Barrington playgroup at St. James Church. Volunteer Janet Galvin in planning the event. Call her if you'd like to help.

For more information about any of our programs or activities, please call 528-9311.

— Claudette Callahan



Satisfaction



Desolation

COMMUNITY DINNER NEWS

Rwanda, that very beautiful part of East Central Africa, came alive for all those present at the September 9 Community Dinner, when Steve Schneider, who was born in Rwanda, shared his personal knowledge and beautiful slides. Monterey is indeed privileged to have its citizens share their knowledge and experience, and at the same time, to enjoy a variety of dishes from great cooks.

The next Community Dinner will be held on October 14. Dan Tawczynski of Taft Farm will be the speaker. Dan recently returned from a two-week stay in Siberia on the shore of Lake Baikal, the largest freshwater lake in the world. His talk will dispel some of the myths we hear about Russia.



CHURCH NEWS

When I was a child, two of my favorite stories were *Robinson Crusoe* and *Swiss Family Robinson*, two tales of shipwrecked castaways washed ashore on deserted South Seas islands. I used to imagine what it must have been like to be a character in one of those stories. Even with the element of survival, it still seemed like an adventurous and exciting dream.

Have you ever wished you could "get away from it all," that you could retreat to an island paradise and just be by yourself for a while? Well, I finally had my opportunity, not in the South Seas, mind you, but off the coast of Maine — a little, fifteen-acre island in Penobscot Bay, twelve miles off the mainland, yet within sight of North Haven Island.

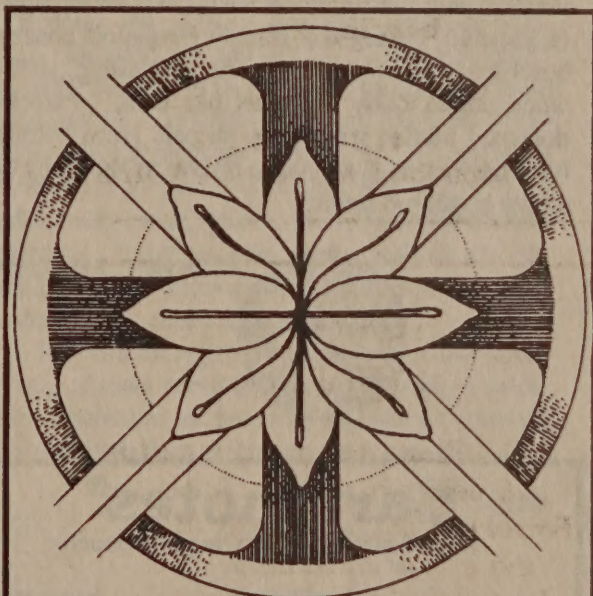
Each of us at points during our life feels the need to gain some refreshment and renewal. I am no exception, and, after a long church year, felt the need for a personal retreat. And so I headed off to what promised to be an exciting (and fearful) dream come true. Oak Island can be reached only by boat, has no fresh water or dwelling. The plan was to be dropped off by lobster boat carrying all my own gear, food and water, and then be picked up seven days later. Spending a day or two alone is one thing, but seven days in complete solitude and isolation? Could I really stand being by myself for that amount of time? How about you? In this busy and hectic world, very few of us actually take the time to be alone to meditate, pray and look deep within our souls to the essence of who we are. In those brief moments when we do, we discover that we don't always like what we encounter. A prolonged silent inner dialogue can be quite fearful. And yet, if we are created in God's image, then there must be an inner place of blessing, too. Silence and solitude can be a profound adventure to experience both the darkness and light, beast and angel that dwell inside each of us.

This inner paradox was brought home to me while I was hiking on the rocks above the incoming tide. Climbing around a bend, I discovered a small, secluded beach which illustrated my inner struggle:

*Small pebbly beach
Nestled between the rocks
You offer haven from the sun
Your shadows create cool refreshment
I seek out the shadows of life
The dark caves and crevices
That can hide the inner beast
If I am to discover the haven,
The refreshment, the renewal,
The gift of life.*

My island time was a wonderful experience of re-creation. Life is more than survival. It is a quest to explore the inner horizon of the soul and discover both the sunshine and shadow. When we are able at last to embrace the dark shadows of life, it is then that we experience true renewal. The beast becomes the doorway for the angel to enter. Sometimes, it takes an island, or a mountain top, or a walk in the woods. Sometimes, it takes a disappointment, tragedy or even death to feel the depth of holy grace. Always, it takes a dialogue with oneself and with God. Each of us needs a retreat now and then for true inner healing.

— Cliff Aerie



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MONTEREY WILDLIFE SURVEY

Mammals: A porcupine at the Lazzarinis', several reports of blackberry and raspberry canes knocked over and eaten, probably also porcupine; signs of porcupines dining on upper branches of poplars. Perhaps they are getting ready for winter. Bears conspicuous by their absence, even at the transfer station. Many grey squirrels and young raccoons killed by cars.

Birds: Several great blue heron sightings. A grebe on Lake Garfield. Vultures circling, ready to feast on the last remains of summer?

Plants: Conspicuous berries: moosewood, false Solomon's seal, clintonia, nannyberry, highbush cranberry, bearberry, trillium, jack-in-the-pulpit, blackberry, gooseberry, flowering raspberry. Fruiting and blooming at the same time: pokeberry, bladder campion, wild thyme. Unusual: a few ovate-leaved violets and a wild strawberry blossom, a few daisies, primrose, mullein, St. Johnswort. Most common at this time: goldenrod (rough-stemmed, blue-stemmed, showy, grey), asters (white wood aster, sharp-leaved, small white aster, New England aster), silver rod, brown-eyed Susans, Queen Anne's lace, red clover, meadow pink, mushrooms of many kinds, sweet pepper (at its peak), wintergreen, shrubby cinquefoil, boneset, beechdrops, Indian pipes, pearly everlasting, yellow wood sorrel, daisy fleabane, bee balm. Panicked dogwood berries seem to be all pale green because birds have eaten all the bluish rip one, as shown by the empty bright-red stems.



— David P. McAllester

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THE BIDWELL HOUSE

Fall is a beautiful time to visit The Bidwell House. We have three events planned for the coming weeks which we hope you will come and enjoy.

To celebrate the beauty of our autumn leaves, The Bidwell House will host a guided hike along the old Royal Hemlock Road on Saturday, October 3, from 1:30-4:40 p.m. Led by volunteer Bob Rausch, this hike will begin at The Bidwell House porch, follow the trail that was once the Royal Hemlock Road and end at Shaker Pond in Tyringham. The hike will then return to the house. This is a moderately difficult hike over hilly terrain, and we suggest that participants wear hiking boots, as portions of the trail are muddy and somewhat overgrown. The hike is free of charge. However, we suggest that participants come to The Bidwell House before the hike for a tour of the house. House tours will be given at 12:30 and 1:00. Raindate for the hike is Sunday, October 4 at the same time.

On Saturday, October 17, we will further celebrate those autumn leaves with a raking party. We are looking for volunteers who can come any time between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. with their own rakes to help us maintain our beautiful grounds. All participants will receive a free tour of the house, cider and donuts and our hearty thanks! Raindate for this event is Sunday, October 18.

On Sunday, November 1, at 1:30, we will host a behind-the-scenes tour of The Bidwell House's collection of quilts and linsey-woolsies. There will be an admission charge. Please call for reservations.

A special thanks to all those who have donated perennials to our garden. They include Sally Fijux, Barbara Perlo and Mary Thorn. We also thank the Monterey Historical Society for donating the leftovers from their plant swap. I'm sure our garden will be spectacular next spring.

Our last day open to the public for 1992 is Sunday, October 18. Many townspeople have asked me where I will go during the off-season. My husband and I will live in Monterey year-round, and my position continues throughout the year, with an emphasis on research fund raising, giving tours to school children and planning for the coming season. In addition, we are organizing a number of events to be held this winter.

For more information on our upcoming events, call me at 528-6888. Thanks for your patronage this season, and I hope to see you during our final weeks!

— Lisa Simpson

LAKE GARFIELD ASSOCIATION

Boating and Safety Committee Report

At the August, 1991 meeting of the Lake Garfield Association, the membership expressed strong concerns about the inherent dangers of boaters speeding through the narrow channel and multiple water skiers in the smaller lake. These concerns were based on many personal "close calls," as well as non-compliance with state safety regulations.

Massachusetts Safety Regulations stipulate that it is illegal to operate a motorboat at more than headway speed (5 mph) within 150 feet of a marina, boat launch facility, raft or float, within 300 feet of a public bathing beach and in a channel. Boaters must stay at least 150 feet from shorelines used as swimming areas and 75 feet from the marked outer boundaries of a public swimming beach.

The Lake Garfield Association decided to deal with the problems by charging the Boating and Safety Committee with placing buoy markers at each end of the channel between the large and small lakes, indicating a speed of 5 mph and a NO SKI AREA for the small lake.

The Committee sought the necessary permission from the State of Massachusetts by contacting the Marine Division of Law Enforcement, who deferred to the Director of Waterways, who deferred to the Public Access Board, who deferred to the Department of Environmental Protection, who deferred to the Department of Environmental Management. The DEM accepted responsibility for lake management, but deferred to the town Board of Selectmen on the matter of inserting buoy markers listing specific regulations in the lake. With permission from the Selectmen, the buoys could be placed in the lake.

The Committee received permission from the Selectmen and installed the buoy markers in mid-July, 1992. With the exception of one family, boaters were observed to adhere to the regulations. The family who objected by skiing through the channel and in the small lake did so, they say, to indicate their belief that the regulations could not be enforced without the approval of the town's voters.

The Committee retraced its path through the state agencies it had previously contacted. Richard Murray, Director of the Marine Division of Law Enforcement, confirmed that we *had* been misinformed. In order to enforce the regulations specified on the buoy markers, two conditions must be met: (1) The

regulation or bylaw must be proposed on a warrant to be voted on by town residents at the next town meeting. (2) A Harbor Master must be appointed by the town to enforce the regulation and all boating safety regulations of the State of Massachusetts.

At the August 29, 1992 meeting of the Lake Garfield Association, the Boating and Safety Committee made a two-part proposal:

a. That the town of Monterey immediately appoint a Harbor Master, with authority to enforce boating safety regulations of the town and state via summonses which are provided by the Chief of Boating Safety, State of Massachusetts.

b. That the proposal for channel buoys and their respective messages, in the form of a warrant for a vote at the next town meeting, be submitted under the imprimatur of the Lake Garfield Association.

The proposal was passed by the Association membership with one dissenting vote. The Boating and Safety Committee is now working with the Selectmen and the state Director of Law Enforcement on the warrant in preparation for a vote at the town meeting next May.

As a footnote to all of the above, the members of the Boating and Safety Committee (Paul Carnese, Martin Cherneff, Barbara Resnick, Maryanne Jaffe) would like the town to know that we do not favor more regulations on Lake Garfield beyond those which the state has already mandated. Our objective is to insure the safety of everyone who uses and enjoys Lake Garfield, via a canoe, sailboat, motorboat, water skis or swimming. Buoy markers in the channel are one significant way to accomplish this aim, as well as a way to enforce basic state safety regulations.

We thank everyone who has supported our efforts and urge all town voters to consider the positive safety values inherent in the proposed regulations when it's time to vote on them at the next town meeting.

— Paul J. Carnese



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MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange met August 19 for our annual Youth Night. With Deputy Peter Martin acting as Master, young people from area granges conducted the meeting, furnished the program and had a fund raiser for youth projects.

The Grange food sale was a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Eight members recently presented Southern Berkshire Transportation with a check for \$200.

Several members attended Youth Night at West Stockbridge, where Master Tolitha Butler and Assistant Steward served as Lady Assistant Steward and Assistant Steward.

The Grange met again September 2 for installation of officers for the coming year by past State Flora of Connecticut, Vivian Shaw.

The Grange recently won second prize for an exhibit at the Blandford Fair.

Several members attended the Stockbridge Grange Fair and installation at West Stockbridge Grange. We have been invited to installation at Pittsfield Grange #14.

The Grange Youth is collecting pink register tapes from Price Chopper.

The next meeting will be October 7, for a Pumpkin Program. There will be special pumpkin recipes, a pumpkin pie contest and prizes for pumpkin costumes. Members from area granges are invited to participate.

— Mary Wallace

OUR TOWN

Naming Our Place

I've been trying to get around to putting up a sign on my property. No, not a FOR SALE sign, or a sign to advertise any products, though that may be a later concern. The sign I have in mind would simply identify the place, something like *Barnum Hill. Since 1764.*

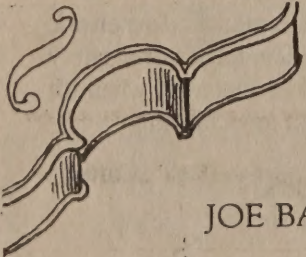
But then, I get into a long conversation between this place and myself, a dialogue laced with considerations about ownership, monuments, community, time and memory. What do I know about any Barnums? Some records list this area of Route 23 as the Barnum Flats, of course, and some people remember that the homestead was the home of generations of the Barnum family. Now, according to the records of the Commonwealth, Donna and I own the place. We treasure the old buildings for their character and history, but I still feel a bit like an imposter here. I am learning about the buildings and the land, but what does that have to do with the Barnums?

And there were Native American families acquainted with this place before 1764. They left no monument to tell me that this was maybe once called *The Place of the Fallen Maple*. Is it their loss or mine that I can't connect with their enjoyment and custody of this land because they didn't leave an indelible record?

My concerns may seem quaint in an era when people move dozens of times in a lifetime, but I think that we gain in spirit and community by paying attention to the place or places of our lives. We enhance our short personal tenure at a place when we celebrate the people and spirit of its past. Even during our "ownership," we share the viewscape, memory, influent and effluent of our place with others. And we, too will be gone, and others will take custody of monuments and memories which we have left.

So I have the modest luxury of naming my place. I could follow the example of the New York City developer (Trump Tower, Trump Shuttle) and call it *Burkhart Hill*. No, I couldn't. They can use our family name if it seems appropriate in a few generations. But now, the connection with our community's past is important to celebrate. *Barnum Hill* is right.

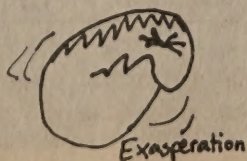
— Wayne Burkhardt



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MONTEREY ROUND TABLE

The recent civil strife in some of our cities and the current discouraging economic picture have caused many of us to pause and reflect on our society. One conclusion must be that our cities have not been meeting the needs of their citizens. The next obvious question here is, *what about Monterey?* We clearly do not have the problems of South Central Los Angeles, but nevertheless, some of us would like to set up a system so that we here in Monterey can feel assured that the needs of our citizens are being met.

Shortly after we discussed the above issue at a Round Table meeting, one of the people present wrote the following note:

A few days ago, I needed some help. I was going to take an old mattress from the basement and drive it to the town dump. I needed help to carry that old mattress from the basement to the truck, and then I needed someone to drive with me to the dump and lift it from the truck. I didn't do it, because there wasn't anyone to give me a hand. So I started thinking about the discussion of community needs that I had heard at the Monterey Round Table. It really would be nice if we here in Monterey could set up some sort of network so that when someone needs a hand, he could call someone with a list of people who could help out.

After mulling about this for a while, I came up with all sorts of situations that would require a friendly hand; nothing like substituting for professional service, but small tasks that might take a morning's time or less. I decided to go back to the next Round Table and help to get this thing going.

Some of the tasks that volunteers might perform include:

1. Providing transportation to a doctor's appointment, shopping, car service or job interview.
2. Emergency childcare.
3. Respite care to give relief to caregivers of the elderly or of sick children.
4. Friendly visits to the housebound.
5. Daily checks on elderly living alone who request it.
6. Helping with small odd jobs for those unable to do for themselves, such as going to the dump, changing a light bulb or moving some boxes.

Setting up a system in a careful and thoughtful manner will require suggestions from a broad spectrum of Monterey's population. A roster of residents willing to volunteer time must be compiled. It should include

the availability of each volunteer and the nature of the help he/she can offer. Three volunteer coordinators will match volunteers with those who request help.

In no case will the help offered duplicate a service offered by anyone in town trying to earn a living. Everyone involved in this project must always remember that the dignity of every citizen must never be compromised.

We need and welcome your comments as we set up the Monterey HELP project. If you'd like to participate or share your thoughts, please fill out the coupon at the bottom of this page. We'd also like to see you at our next meeting, October 21, 7:30 p.m. at the town hall.

FIRE COMPANY NEWS

A belated thanks to everyone who supported us at the annual Steak Roast. Special thanks to John Piretti, who helped us with our trial run addition of fish to the menu. We hope to see everyone back next year.

All the proceeds from the Steak Roast will go toward the mortgage on the fire station and pavilion. For anyone unfamiliar with our situation, we built the station and pavilion with money we raised on our own through many steak roasts and donations. Anyone who missed the Steak Roast and would like to contribute can send a donation to the Monterey Fire Company, Box 99, Monterey. Thank you for your support.

— Mark Makuc

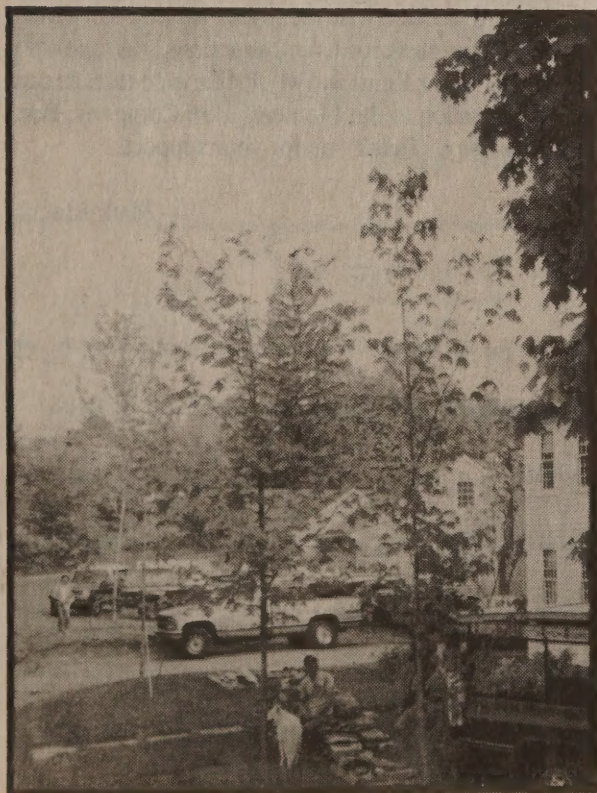
I am interested in the Monterey HELP project.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Mail to Gerry McMahon, Box 582, Monterey, or drop in designated box at the General Store.



TREE WARDEN NEWS

The trees shown in these two pictures were recently donated for town plantings. Thanks to Jan and Arnold Garber for the two lovely flowering crab trees, which were planted at the Town Beach. The other picture shows four sugar maples planted as town trees on Eric Pedersen's lawn in the village center. The most distant tree in the photo was generously donated by Mark Makuc from his property on Bidwell Road. The other three trees were donated by my parents and myself from Lowland Farm.

I'm always looking for well-shaped trees for town plantings.

— Roger Tryon

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*Sing a song
That has no words:
A song that hails
Beyond the heavens.*

*Sing a song
That has no words;
A song that deepens
Beneath the oceans.*

*Sing a song
That has no words;
A song that lives
Within the essence.*

*Sing a song
That has no words;
A song that is its
Silent word.*

— Ann M. LaVallee

AUTUMN: THE BRONZING OF NEW ENGLAND

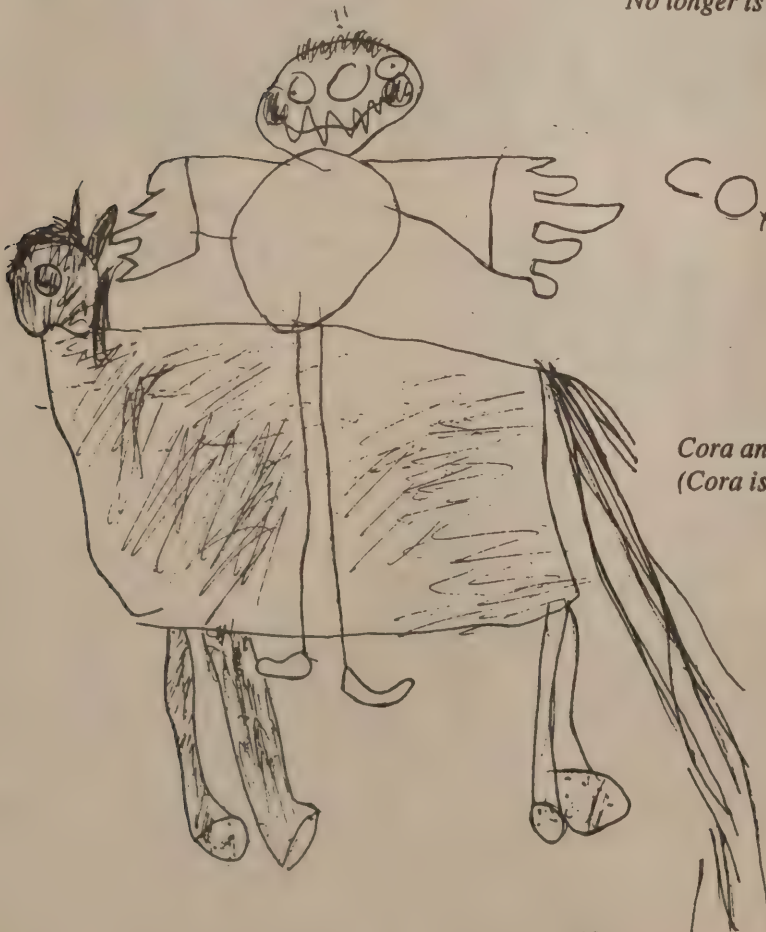
*Over the blushing trees
Was lavished a glance of gold.
A lustrous metallic glow
Enriched the brilliance of old.*

*The reds and yellows of yore
Had a bronze wash this year.
The purity of the eye
Was changed by an olive tear.*

*In me an inner chord was struck
By the softer, subtler tones.
Orange-yellows and purplish pinks
Reflected light on the stones.*

*New England's entered the Bronze Age
In color but not in form.
The quality of light is different.
No longer is vivid the norm.*

— Nancy Adams



CORA!G

*Cora and Sudi playing horse
(Cora is riding side-saddle; Sudi is the horse)*

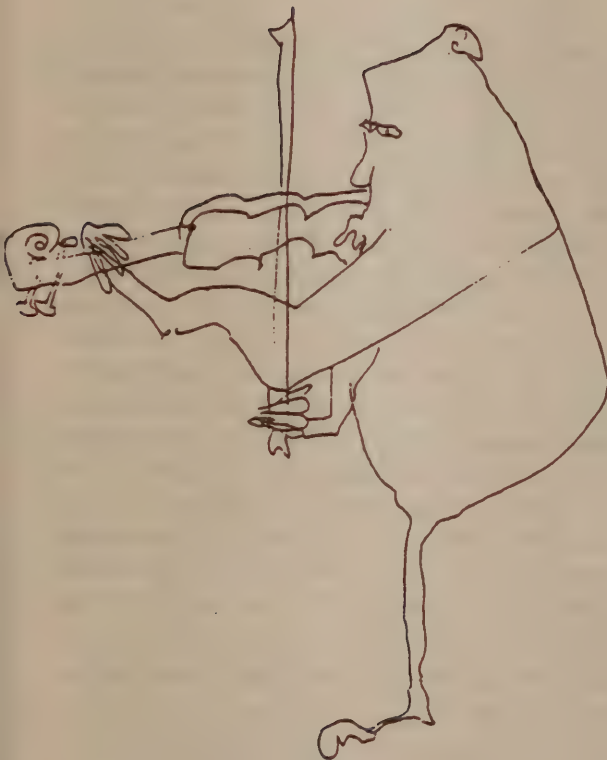
ENIGMA

*My first is in pear, and also in peach.
My second's in plum, just out of your reach.
My third's in the tree where the apples grow.
My fourth's in the sun that gives them their glow.
Hidden in summer my fifth you'll find.
My last's not in grape, but it is in vine.
What am I?*

Find the letters that spell the answer.

— Eleanor Kimberley

Answer on page 20



THE PUZZLING PEOPLE

*There was a curious people once. They built so high
Their city might have been a giant's stair,
Climbing the steep ascent of dazzled air,
Bewildering the moon, and crowding back the sky.
"We will put windows here instead of stars. They
are more bright."
(They were a bit afraid, I think, of eyes of night.)*

*A curious folk, because their land
Was mile on mile of blossoming sand,
Was miles of plain and blowing grass,
And sprawling hill and mountain pass
Where only trees were regiment.
If to their land that people went,
The land could take them, could take more
And still be empty as before.*

*But they built bars to fence the giant moon
Whose blushing face
Rode in at dusk, was out of place
In that strange spot;
And they contrived a little roar,
A steady hum, preferring not
To hear the ocean thinking on their shore.*

— Margery Mansfield

DANCING EARTHMOTHER

*My mother entertains the gods,
Twitching her geothermic hips
In her plate-tectonic shift
When the right century puts her
In a dancing mood.*

— David P. McAllester



LITTLE 'POSSUMS AND THE LAW

We all get born into the world about the same: ignorant of the law. Then, step by step, we get educated to all sorts of laws. Some are laws of nature, like gravity. Then there are the household laws, like no going outside in the winter without a jacket, and finish your main course if you want dessert.

As we get older, we start to experience the larger laws of the land. Some kids watch television and get a remarkable exposure to assorted crimes and punishments. Some go out and try crimes firsthand and learn about the law firsthand. In our family, as far as I know, the kids have learned about civil and criminal law secondhand, from our telling about things we've read or heard, or even experienced.

We respect the law here and don't run afoul of it very often. We are squeamish about violence, injury, jail sentences and even fines. We can generally avoid all these unsavorinesses by obeying the laws we know about.

Every once in a while, there pops up a new law, one our parents didn't warn us about and we didn't hear about since. I got educated along these lines not too long ago when I took care of an injured Canada goose, wrote a column about it, and almost immediately got a citation for wildlife harassment. This wasn't a bad way to learn: the officer explained the law to me and then I even got to write a column about *that*. Also, the goose recovered and flew off south with her flock.

This law I now know about is designed to protect wildlife from the interference of people, whether it is

malicious interference or well-intentioned, life-saving interference. For instance, it is against the law for a person to scoop a little opossum from its mother's pouch, take it home for his or her own personal edification, there to feed and house it inappropriately, maybe cause its death, and probably render it unfit for rehabilitation to the wild. The only people who can legally keep wild animals are those who have a license to do so. They have passed an exam, paid a fee, been inspected by officials. These people have an incredible commitment to the welfare of wild animals, and they get calls at all hours of the day and night from veterinarians, wildlife officers and folks about town who have spotted an injured or orphaned wild animal.

Now that I know about the wildlife law, I have to be careful who I tell about it. For instance, some people I know scooped a 'possum from its mother's pouch not long ago. They'd gotten a call from a motorist who had spotted a death on the highway, the mother killed and babies in the pouch. My friends thought carefully about the welfare of the babies, thought about knocking them on the head, went out to take a look, and wound up bringing the four survivors home. They bought an eyedropper, warmed up milk, set the alarm clock and got up in the wee hours for feedings.

One little 'possum never did warm up after her night on the highway in a thunderstorm; she died the first day. The other guzzled down milk at all their feedings, opened their eyes, grew more fur and endeared themselves to their human rescuers. They did this through no effort of their own, but just by being fascinating and alive, also by being so different from

anything these people had ever seen before. The 'possum is a marsupial, born only a few days after conception, when it is the size of a honeybee and is nearly transparent. It has no muscles to speak of, nor even any hind legs at this point, yet it makes its way to the mother's pouch, where it fastens onto a nipple and continues its development on 'possum milk. There is no placenta, and, as my friends observed, no belly button. The books say there is very little brain, only about 1/5 as much as in a raccoon.

What became of the little 'possums? Two more died, after a few days, and the last one got taken to a licensed wildlife rehabilitation person. My friends were outside the law for about six days, and maybe they were responsible for two deaths, through their ignorance of 'possum dietary requirements. It wasn't the dying of the 'possums that constituted an illegality, though; it was the keeping and caring for them that was the harassment.

What was our role in all this? We watched it happening and did nothing to prevent it. I hope I don't get a ticket now for collusion, but I guess I see plenty of folks speeding through town way over the speed limit, mowing down 'possums left and right. I don't do anything to stop *them* from breaking the law, and no one has ticketed me as an accomplice to speeding. As for mowing down 'possums, I don't have to think about preventing that because it's not against the law. You don't need a license to knock them down: any fool can do that.

The laws of nature are pretty well set, but household laws and the criminal and civil ones are made up by us. We get to rearrange old ones, think up new ones, vote this way and that, explain it all to our children. This, like the belly button and the placenta, points out another difference between us and 'possums: their little brains exempt them from all but the natural laws.

— Bonner J. McAllester

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WHO'S WHO IN MONTEREY

Nicky Hearon and Jason Brown

Since 1986, Monterey has been enlivened by the creative theater of two gifted young residents, Nicky Hearon and Jason Brown. Both have been making up plays and acting in them since childhood. Nicky organized her younger siblings into a theater company, performing in front of the family fireplace in Mobile, Alabama, and Jason, with equal precocity, was writing scripts and "acting up and acting out" in New York City. Their subsequent careers made it inevitable that they should meet.

Nicky's degree from Birmingham Southern College was in theater. She was inspired by the brilliant director, Arnold F. Powell, who insisted that she should direct as well as act. From the time she was a sophomore, she had the heady experience of directing (even some of her professors) in excellent plays. After college, she went right into the profession, starting several companies and performing widely in the South. She won a regional theater award for her leading role in John Guare's *House of Blue Leaves*.

Jason hit his stride at Buxton School in Williamstown. There, too, was an outstanding theater department. "It was a wonderful opportunity, and that's where I really got the bug!" Even so, when he went to Sarah Lawrence, he planned to drop acting and prepare for a writing career like his father and his grandfather. But the siren call of the college's theater department was irresistible, and he jumped at the first role he was offered. Now, serendipity entered: Jason was playing the male lead in *House of Blue Leaves*, and Nicky's cousin was also in the cast. At that point, Nicky had come to New York to break into the big time and was living with her relatives. Of course, they all came to see the play, and Nicky met Jason backstage. It was an auspicious beginning for the common interests that eventually made them into a theater team.

After college, Jason studied and acted with Shakespeare and Company in Lenox and then had a leading role with the American Stage Company in St. Petersburg, Florida. "Then I went back to New York to seek fame and fortune." He was in showcase performances, worked in film and off-Broadway. In one production, he was cast as Orlando in *As You Like It*. Since he had studied with B.H. Barry, the fight choreographer in Lenox, Jason was put in charge of combat scenes. He was a practitioner of martial arts and brought a new kind of life into the action. However,

on the next to last night of the run, someone landed on him without warning, and he suffered a torn ligament in his knee. Just as agents were beginning to call, and the future looked bright, he was disabled.

Nicky had been having some successes in New York, too, but also a lot of frustration. Nicky and Jason had learned what it was like to live from hand to mouth and just how impersonal New York could be. They came to Monterey to live with Jason's family, thinking that he could have a quick operation and then they would be back in the fray. But there were two years of complications with the knee, and Monterey began to work its magic.

Nicky and Jason loved the community and life in the country. They found themselves sorting out their lives and clarifying their goals. Nicky began an independent MA program at Lesley College in Cambridge. Her subject was "feminine archetypes in classical Greek theater," and she found two local advisors whose expertise could hardly be matched anywhere — Alice Howell and Barbara Swann.

Another interest that Nicky and Jason shared was the Native American perspective on the relation between nature and humankind. They are both part Indian, Creek and Nipmuck, respectively, and in New York they had become active in the Big Mountain cause. Nicky began attending Women's Councils in Buffalo under the guidance of Grandmother Twyla Nietsch, a Seneca clan matron whose interest in the social and spiritual role of women has taken her among tribal people in South America, Africa and Australia. Her Elders' Councils have brought visitors from around the world to her home on the Cattaraugus Reservation. One of these visitors was Kitty Dee Keel She Wa, an Oglala wise woman from South Dakota, who became another of Nicky's grandmothers.

The insights gained from these Councils and friendships, combined with the readings in anthropology, psychology, philosophy and folklore for the MA at Lesley College, led Nicky and Jason to a fundamentally new life. With the encouragement of Mickey Friedman, they started a children's theater in which universal themes from world mythology were portrayed. While he was disabled, Jason returned to music, giving local concerts, honing his jazz piano by studying with Bob Neidig in Southfield, and composing the music for the children's plays. Both Nicky and Jason developed professional talent as story tellers. As Jason recovered, he began auditioning again in New York and got various jobs on TV there and in Boston. He can be seen every week as a bank robber in the

opening credits of *Unsolved Mysteries*.

All of their new interests culminated in *Persephone's Cave*, which had its first performances right here in Monterey. It is the creative part of Nicky's Master's thesis combined with Jason's music, and speaks, through theater design, music and winged words, about women's search for empowerment through the discovery of themselves. Many people in Monterey were inspired by the high quality of both the play and its two creators to contribute the time and effort that transformed the Monterey Church at once into the classical and mythical Greece and the present playing field of the archetypal human soul.

Nicky and Jason are excited by the response their play has received and are dreaming of further performances and other productions on similar universal themes. They see the Berkshires as the right place for them to do this work, and especially hope to bring these ideas to young people in the schools. And they see all this as a kind of repayment for what the Berkshires have contributed to their lives.

— David P. McAllester

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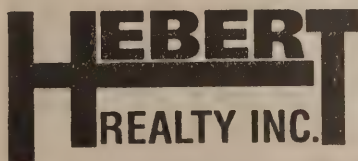
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ON THE ROAD AGAIN To Montana

With my three, four-day-old Yorkies (all three could fit into the palm of one hand) locked in the bathroom of my camper, I set out on a nine-hour trip to Erie, Pennsylvania. My friend Edith, God bless her, took my six dogs and two cats to care for, and put me on a plane for two weeks in Montana.

Born and bred in Montana, I left at 18, to go to college at Barnard in New York City. Now I was going back for my high school reunion, with all the rest of the "old people."

Butte, a Diamond in the Rough. A Mile High and Mile Deep. Butte was the "richest hill on earth," with valuable ores lying beneath the surface. By 1917, Butte's population swelled to 100,000. Single miners and whole families came from all around the world. Early skilled miners were Cornish, but prospects of work drew the Irish, Serbs, French Canadians, Finns, Chinese, Mexicans, Austrians, Germans and black Americans — an ethnic population!

My hosts, Bob and Pauline, met me at Butte's airport. Bob is a lawyer. We went all the way through elementary and high school together. They whisked me through the "flat" (which is fast becoming the nucleus of the city), past old steel headframes that lowered hardrock miners into the earth to dig hundreds of miles of tunnels. (First gold, then silver, then, during the 1880s, Butte became the world's biggest copper producer.) Up to the foot of Big Butte to their house, which looks down on the whole city.

The next night, there was a dinner with old friends. We planned the reunion, to be held at the Country Club, and a picnic, for the whole 135, to be held in Bob and Pauline's yard. We went to work. My job was to write a playlet, using items from the newspaper that came out on our graduation day, like *Generalissimo Franco told the British to keep out of their waters* and *Former King Edward and Mrs. Wallis Simpson will spend their honeymoon in a secluded villa in Australia* and *Butte City Council appointed a Veterinary Surgeon to inspect all meat and meat products* and *at the Broadway Theatre — John Wayne in Oregon Trail, 10 and 20 cents* and *Diz Dean had 3rd victory* and *General MacArthur marries* and *at Symond's store: men's topcoat, \$19, sox, .19, misses' dresses, \$1* and *Don Budge leads Davis Cup Tennis Team*.

After the reunion festivities were over, I was given the loan of a car to drive around and see the old town. I went uptown, to the part I knew. It was pretty

grim-looking. The Anaconda Copper Mining Company, which owned the mines, stores, hotels and the newspaper, dominated Butte for 70 years. The "war between the copper kings" became a part of Montana political history. The dangers of working underground and economic exploitation led to another part of Butte's heritage, the labor movement. The Butte local sent the largest delegation to the founding convention in Chicago in 1906. Worker frustration and company indifference led to violence in the 20th century. (My father hired a guard to watch our house, and followed my two brothers and me, at a proper distance, on our two-mile walk to school.)

In 1955, "the Company" turned from underground work to begin the giant Berkeley Pit, which did away with hundreds of homes on the city's east side. The Columbia Gardens, an elegant, old-fashioned park, fell victim to open-pit mining. "The Company" left Butte in 1982. Uptown is empty now. The fashionable Hotel Finlan has been made into apartments. My father's Metals Bank is now La Toucan Restaurant, with a table in the vault! Burned-down buildings left many parking lots. I drove past the former red-light district of my time. Only one building left, with a mannequin, clad in red. The sign said, *Antique Shop*. The Berkeley Pit is filling with water.

My old friend Lois, who lived in my home for eight years (and knows more about my family than I do), and I drove up to the lakes near Glacier Park and Canada. Past the gorgeous Mission Range, with glaciers even in August. My father used to say, "That's the most beautiful view in the entire world!" Past the Bison Reserve. We arrived at Elmer's house in Big Fork, which looks out on Flathead Lake. Elmer's father was caretaker of my family's summer house on Swan Lake. When we were kids, we used to draw pictures of the mountains and the lake. My drawings were so bad! Elmer's were so good. Now he is a famous artist! We went to see my old home. New owners have spent thousands of dollars to bring it back to its former glory. I was so pleased.

Back to Butte. I went with cousin Bill to his comfortable cabin on Moose Lake. We talked for hours about our grandfather and about what the years have brought to each of us.

Lois took me to my plane. We flew over Our Lady of the Rockies, a 90-foot statue of Mary, lighted at night, 8510 feet above sea level. She looks down at Butte and the Berkeley Pit.

—Joan Woodard Reed

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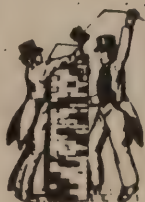
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EDWARD E. BROSSAU

Edward E. Brosseau, 88, of Beartown Mountain Road, died August 26 at Berkshire Medical Center.

Born in Leominster on November 5, 1903, son of John and Cecelia Devarnere Brosseau, he was a graduate of Leominster High School.

He moved to New York City in 1922 and worked on the railroad for the Metropolitan Transit Authority. When he retired in 1967, he moved to Monterey. He was a communicant of Our Lady of the Valley Church in Sheffield.

His wife, the former Genevieve Beauchene, died October 3, 1986.

He leaves a son, Robert E. Brosseau of Bohemia, New York; a brother, Victor Brosseau of Shelton, Connecticut; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to Our Lady of the Valley Church memorial fund in care of Hickey-Birches Funeral Home in Great Barrington.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

It is always a pleasure to receive the *Monterey News* out here in California. I particularly love Bonner McAllester's column, which re-connects me with the important things in life every time I read it.

— Cornelia St. John

To the Editor:

At the end of July, two buoys were placed at each end of the Lake Garfield channel. One buoy stated 5 mph, the other, 5 mph on one side and No Ski Area on the other side.

I knew something was amiss. The following Monday, I contacted the Marine Division of Law Enforcement and was directed to the officer in charge of our region, Melissa Pania. Officer Pania stated that I was the second caller about the buoys in Lake Garfield. The first caller had been stopped by a member of the Lake Garfield Association and told that he could no longer teach his grandchildren to ski in the small lake.

My objective in calling was to ascertain whether the buoys has been placed by the state, the town, or a small, special-interest group. It turned out to be the latter. Officer Pania explained that any buoys placed in the lake had to be listed on a town warrant and voted on at the annual town meeting and approved by the Attorney General, or at a special town meeting and vote.

After an investigation, Officer Pania determined that the buoys had been placed without proper authorization and therefore, illegally placed. I then went to a Selectmen's meeting and asked that the buoys be removed until the outcome of the annual town meeting and vote. At the same meeting, Paul Carnese, Chairman of the Boating and Safety Committee of the Lake Garfield Association, stated that the Association had acted on the erroneous information its members had received, namely, that the buoys could be placed with permission from the Massachusetts Lake Management and approval of the "town fathers."

The approval of the Selectmen was obtained solely from the Chairman of the Board at a Lake Garfield Association meeting. It was not obtained at a weekly meeting of the Board so that the other Selectmen could vote or voice opinions, and so, therefore, again, proper permission was not obtained.

The Selectmen acknowledged that the buoys had been placed illegally and that the rules they stated could not be enforced. However, they agreed that the buoys would remain in place until the meeting of the Lake Garfield Association the following Saturday, to see if the people in attendance were still in favor of the buoys.

At the same meeting, one of the Selectmen suggested that a Harbor Master be appointed to oversee the lake. Such an appointment can be made only by the Selectmen. In the past, the Selectmen asked the Lake Garfield Association about appointing a Harbor Master and found the Association strongly opposed, but now the Association favors the move.

At the Lake Garfield Association meeting, members learned that the buoys had been illegally placed, but voted to keep the buoys in the water anyway. Is this the image the Lake Garfield Association chooses to present to the town and that the "town officials" seem to respect?

I have no objection to regulations of the channel, should such regulations be approved and passed by the town, provided that they are implemented properly.

I measured the channel with a rope and found it to be 380 feet wide, leaving 80 feet by the Code of Massachusetts Regulations to water ski or drive a boat above headway speed in the channel if the public so desires. See 323 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 2.07 (1) (c) 1., which states, "Motorboats shall not be operated within 150 feet of shoreline which is being used as a swimming area, whether public or private." In addition, headway speed, according to 323 Code of Massachusetts Regulations, does not exceed six miles per hour, not five.

In closing, everyone's concern is for the safety of others on Lake Garfield. There has never been a motorboat accident in the channel or the little lake, and there hasn't been one in the large lake in at least twenty years. I am sensitive to people's concerns regarding motorboats and close calls, as I have a brother who almost lost both his legs to a boat's propeller. I hope the town will choose not to put additional regulations on this lake.

— Cindy L.E. Deloy

PERSONAL NOTES



Our hearty congratulations to **Hannah Pedersen** and **Jeff Moran**, who were married in Monterey on August 29. Hannah's sisters, **Ellen** and **Ann**, were maid of honor and bridesmaid, respectively. Following a reception at Chesterwood, the newlyweds enjoyed a trip to Nantucket, and are now happily settled back in at their home in Great Barrington. Hannah, daughter of **Alf** and **Lena Pedersen** of Main Road, is back at work at the Monterey General Store, and Jeff, owner of Moran Mechanical Systems in Great Barrington, is also back to business.

Best wishes to **Deborah Azerrad** and **Lorenzo Savona**, who recently became engaged. Deborah is the daughter of **Ruth Milsner** of Beartown Mountain Road and San Francisco and **Joel Azerrad** of Briarcliff Manor, New York and North Sandwich, New Hampshire. Lorenzo is the son of Marco and Wanda Savona of New Britain, Connecticut. Deborah and Lorenzo live in Boston, but often spend weekends in Monterey.

Congratulations to **Bob Hebert** of Tyringham Road, who won his third consecutive race on September 12 at the U.S. Vintage Grande Prix at Watkins Glen, New York. Bob had also won the 3.4-mile qualifying run with his 1967 XKE-Jaguar, prepared by Donovan Jaguar of Lenoxdale.

The work of Monterey's **Paul Perces** will be included in Art in Egremont's 3rd Annual Sculpture

Show on October 10-18. The show, located on Hickory Hill Road, is open from 11:00 a.m. until dark each day. Hats off, Paul!

Stefan and I (**Stefan** and **Stephanie Grotz**) just returned from a trip, first to San Francisco, which we loved. As well as taking in the city, we enjoyed a trip down the beautiful coast to another spectacular Monterey, a day among the redwoods, a trip to the wine country, and spending time in Berkeley, Stefan's old stomping grounds — his first trip back there since his graduate school days. I cannot begin to cover all we did and loved — we were true tourists and just packed it in! We then flew to Phoenix, heading first to the Grand Canyon. Again, true tourists, we put over 2,000 miles on our rental car in the Southwest. I won't bore you with a travelogue of all we saw and loved. Suffice it to say, it was a super wonderful trip for both of us, and we're just settling back in now with a lot of pictures and great memories.

Some tidbits — I've heard several other Montereyans were on the move as well. **Bob** and **Linda Hebert** were in California, **Judy Hayes** was in Florida visiting daughter and family, **Ellen Rosenthal** was in California, **Maynard** and **Gale Forbes** enjoyed a few days in Detroit visiting friends, **Joel**, **Alice** and **Morgan Schick** enjoyed time in Florida for a family reunion and celebration, and **Bob** and **Barbara Gauthier** enjoyed some time at their cottage in York, Maine.

Here in Monterey, **Helen Shaw** enjoyed a visit from daughter **Sue** from Florida, **Arthur** and **Alice Somers** had a wonderful 50th wedding anniversary celebration at Rock Ridge, and **Rachel Rodgers**, now a junior at Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield, passed her road test to get her driver's license!

Very Happy Birthday wishes to **Rita Gottlieb** on October 1, to **Jim Gauthier** on October 2, to **Vikki True** on October 6, to **Tom Thorn** on October 9, to **Dave Quisenberry** on October 12, to **Ian Rodgers** on October 22, to **Claire Mielke** on October 24, and to **Debbie Mielke** on October 27.

Any news items, birthdays, etc. you'd like to share? Just give me a call at 528-4519, or jot down your news and drop it in the mail to me, just Route 23. Your contributions are appreciated!

— **Stephanie Grotz**

CONTRIBUTIONS

We are grateful to the following people for their contributions during the past month:

Melvin Katsch
Don & Pat Amstead
Cynthia Weber
S.H. Bronstein
Cornelia St. John
M/M Fred L. Leuchs
Ellen Pearson
Kathleen Frankovic
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CALENDAR

Thursday, October 1 — Annual drawdown of Lake Garfield begins.

Saturday, October 3 — Public hearing on violations at the Simon property on Sylvan Road. 10:00 a.m. at the firehouse.

Saturday, October 3 — Hike along the old Royal Hemlock Road, led by Bob Rausch, hosted by The Bidwell House. 1:30 p.m. at The Bidwell House.

Saturday, October 10 — SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults \$4, children \$1 to dance until intermission. Information: 528-9385.

Wednesday, October 14 — Community Dinner. 6:30 p.m. in the church basement.

Saturday, October 17 — Leaf raking party at The Bidwell House. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 18 — Last day The Bidwell House is open to the public for the 1992 season.

Tuesday, October 20 — Free flu shots. 9:00-10:30 a.m., downstairs at the town hall.

Wednesday, October 21 — Monterey Round Table meeting. 7:30 p.m. at the town hall.

Saturday, October 24 — SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have some square or contra dance experience. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Admission \$4. Information: 528-9385.

Saturday, October 31 — Halloween party for the children of Monterey. 6:30 p.m. (after trick-or-treating) at the firehouse.

Sunday, November 1 — Behind-the-scenes tour of The Bidwell House's collection of quilts and linsey-woolsies. 1:30 p.m. Admission charge. For information and reservations, call 528-6888.



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We invite your submissions of news items, opinions, stories, poetry, drawings and photographs. All editorial material should reach the editor by the 15th of the month before publication. For questions about editorial material, call the editor at 528-3128.

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Drawings in the issue by David Balch, Cora Baker, Bob Johnson, Ben Laux and Bonner McAllester.

MONTEREY NEWS

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